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Message Text

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12
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 W
---------- 128668
P 141005Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3810
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2001

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XJ

SUBJECT: SOUTHERN AFRICA: PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VIEWS

SUMMARY: DAILY MAIL AUGUST 14 CARRIED EXCEPTS FROM EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW GIVEN BY PRESIDENT KAUNDA TO H.J.P. SERFONTEIN OF THE RAND DAILY MAIL. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED COPY OF STORY FILED BY SERFONTEIN. KAUNDA'S VIEWS FOLLOW STANDARD PATTERN; SOUTH AFRICA IS PROPPING UP WHITE REGIME IN RHODESIA; SOUTH AFRICA MISSED CHANCE YEAR AGO TO BRING ABOUT PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO RHODESIA; SOUTH AFRICA CLEARLY GUILTY OF VIOLATION OF ZAMBIAN TERRITORY AND HE COULD NOT ACCEPT EXCUSE THAT SAG DID NOT AUTHORIZE ARMED INCURSION; SOUTH AFRICA HOLDS KEY TO NAMIBIASETTLEMENT, AND SWAPO MUST BE INCLUDED IN SUCH A SETTLEMENT. KAUNDA IS QUOTED AS SAYING TIME IS RUNNING OUT ON DR. KISSINGER'S EFFORTS TO SOLVE RHODESIAN INDEPENDENCE
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DISPUTE. END SUMMARY

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1. PRESIDENT REFUSED TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION ON KISSINGER INITIATIVE, BUT SAID, "I DO HOPE THAT HE DOES SUCCEED. PERHAPS BECAUSE HE IS WHITE SOUTH AFRICA AND REBELS MIGHT TAKE HIM MORE SERIOUSLY; ONE THING IS CLEAR DR. KISSINGER DOES NOT HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT; TIME IS RUNNING OUT." "WE CANNOT STOP SUPPORTING THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT WHILE DR. KISSINGER IS TALKING. OUR TALKING IS OVER; HOWEVER, IF HE SUCEEDS THE WAR WILL BE UNNECESSARY."

2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET MR. VORESTER AGAIN, KAUNDA REPLIED "NO, CERTAINLY NEVER" IT IS ONLY SOUTH AFRICA STANDING BETWEEN SMITH GOVERNMENT AND DEFEAT. VORSTER'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF RHODESIA, KAUNDA IS QUOTED AS SAYING, IS MAJOR FACTOR IN TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF ZAMBIAN/SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS. IT IS SOUTH AFRICA WHICH HAS POWER TO DECIDE WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE PEACE IN NAMIBIA. "LEADERS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE REBELS IN RHODESIA DO NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF HISTORY AT ALL; IT IS PATHETIC AND TRAGIC AND IT IS GOING TO HAVE TRAGIC RESULE."

3. REFERRING TO ALLEGED SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT OF MASHALA GANG AND TO RECENT ATTACK IN WHICH 24 WERE KILLED AND 40 WOUNDED, KAUNDA SAID "WHERE A GOVERNMENT SAYS IT DOES NOT KNOWN ABOUT SUCH ACTIVITIES, THAT GOVERNMENT IS CHEATING OR IT IS NOT IN CONTROL OF ITS TROOPS."

4. KAUNDA REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF THE WAR IN RHODESIA. HE DESCRIBED RHODESIAN ATTACK LAST WEEK INSIDE MOZAMBIQUE AS ABDOMINABLE AND MEAINGLESS. HE RE-JECTED RHODESIAN CLAIM THAT THEY WERE KILLING HUNDREDS OF TERRORITSTS. MANY OF THOSE BEING KILLED WERE INNOCENT CIVILIANS SHOT IN COLD BLOOD. KAUNDA REFUTED ANY SUGGESTION THAT CUBANS OR RUSSIANS WOULD BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN FIGHTING IN RHODESIA.

5. REFERRING TO RIOTING IN SOUTH AFRICA, KAUNDA COMMENTED "IT IS SAD BUT A VERY H CH EXPECTED DEVELOPMENT; WE IN ZAMBIA HAVE BEEN WARNING ABOUT IT FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS. "MR. VORSTER IS THE ONE MAN I KNOW WHO IS STRONG ENOUGH
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TO LEAD SOUTH AFRICA AWAY FROM APARTHEID, BUT AT THE MOMENT THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF HIM DOING SO." WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE NOWHERE TO GO; WITH APARTHEID THEY ARE SOWING THE SEEDS OF THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION.

6. KAUNDA IS PICTURED AS BEING UNIMPRESSED BY THE NEWS THAT A MULTIRACIAL, INTERIM GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED SOON IN NAMIBIA AND THAT A DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED

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SOMETIME NEXT YEAR. "VORSTER HAS SUFFICIENT TROUBLES INSIDE SOUTH AFRICA; WHY DID HE NOT RECOGNIZE SWAPO AS REQUESTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF WHICH SOUTH AFRICA WAS A MEMBER?" "MR. VORSTER WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH SWAPO. HE WILL NOT LOSE FACE. NO SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA IS POSSIBLE WITHOUT RECOGNIZING SWAPO'S ROLE.Z
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PRESS RELEASES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA02068
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760313-0563
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760853/aaaabtwh.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTHERN AFRICA: PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VIEWS SUMMARY: DAILY MAIL AUGUST 14 CARRIED EXCEPTS FROM EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW GIVEN BY PRESIDENT KAUNDA TO H.J.P. SERF
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, XJ, ZA, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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